

# PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE 2015 ONTARIO FIRE CODE

(O. Reg. 213/07, as amended current to January 1, 2015)

**CHANGE NUMBER:** N/A

**CODE REFERENCE:** Division B, Subsection 1.2.1., Table 1.2.1.A.

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED CHANGE:** Table 1.2.1.A. is revised to reference the 2014 edition of NFPA 25.

- Add a new requirement**
- Making a technical change to an existing requirement**
- Making an editorial/administrative change to an existing requirement**

## EXISTING OFC PROVISIONS

TABLE 1.2.1.A.  
Forming Part of Article 1.2.1.1.

NFPA	25-2011	Standard for the Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems	6.4.1.6. 6.5.1.1.(2) 6.6.1.5.(1) to (3)
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## PROBLEM

The Fire Code provides compliance with NFPA 25 (2011 edition) as an option to building owners in lieu of complying with specified requirements in Sections 6.4, 6.5 and 6.6 of Div. B of the Fire Code. However, this edition of the standard does not include additional requirements for the routine hydrostatic testing of the fire department pumper connection line.

## PROPOSED OFC CHANGE

TABLE 1.2.1.A.  
Forming Part of Article 1.2.1.1.

NFPA	25-2014 <del>4</del>	Standard for the Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems	6.4.1.6. 6.5.1.1.(2) 6.6.1.5.(1) to (3)
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## **RATIONALE FOR CHANGE**

The 2014 edition of NFPA 25 requires hydrostatic testing of fire department pumper connection lines on standpipe systems every 5 years, regardless of the age of the system. This routine testing will proactively identify issues that have been associated with the failure of standpipe systems.

Reference to the 2014 edition of NFPA 25 aligns with National Fire Code.

## **IMPACT**

For those owners choosing to comply with NFPA 25, this edition change will require additional inspection and testing of the fire department pumper connection line for standpipe systems, which will result in some additional cost to building owners.

The testing and new annual inspections of this component of a hose standpipe will help to ensure standpipe systems will operate reliably during a fire.

Although there are many standpipe systems in buildings in Ontario, it is anticipated that there will be little impact to owners by changing the edition of the referenced NFPA 25 standard from the 2011 edition to the 2014 edition.

Under the Fire Code, complying with the NFPA standard is provided as an option to the owner in lieu of complying with the prescriptive Fire Code requirements in Articles 6.4.2.1. to 6.4.2.5. and Subsection 6.4.3.

For any owner that has currently opted to comply with the NFPA 25 standard in lieu of complying with the current Fire Code provisions, the change from the 2011 edition to the 2014 edition will mean additional hydrostatic testing of the fire department pumper connection lines on standpipe systems every 5 years, regardless of the age of the system.

Note that the proposed amendments to Subsection 6.4.3. include this type of hydrostatic testing for systems that are older than 30 years. The current 2011 edition of NFPA 25 does not include this type of testing. This change to reference the 2014 edition is necessary to ensure that hydrostatic testing of the fire department pumper connection lines occurs – regardless of whether the owner has opted to comply with the NFPA 25 standard or directly with the provisions of the Fire Code.

This change to the 2014 edition also aligns with the National Fire Code.

## **OBJECTIVE BASED ANALYSIS OF THE CHANGE OR NEW PROVISION**

N/A

**FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT(S) AND LINK(S) TO OBJECTIVE(S)**

Table 1.2.1.A - unchanged

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